

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-8, 31-38, and 42 are currently pending, with claims 1 and 32 being the independent claims. Claim 42 has been added, and claims 39-41 have been canceled without prejudice of the subject matter herein. The Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments and the new claim introduce no new matter. Moreover, the Applicant respectfully requests that these amendments be entered as they place the application in a condition for allowance. Based on the above Amendments and the following Remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-8, 31 and corresponding dependent claims 33-35 and 37-38 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 2 of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,836.

Applicants will file an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer upon indication of allowable subject matter in the application to the extent that the double patenting rejections are maintained in light of the foregoing amendments to the claims.

Rejections of claims 39-41 is moot

In an effort to further prosecution, the Applicant has canceled claims 39-41. The Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and reserves the right to pursue the subject matter as originally presented in a

continuing application. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 39-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is rendered moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

The Claims are Patentable over Project 2000

Claim 32 and corresponding dependent claims 33-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Project 2000*. *Project 2000* discloses a user interface of a project management system that allows a user to manage a project schedule. *Project 2000*, however, fails to disclose or suggest a “route being a step-by-step sequence of email addresses, at least one of an identity of each email address from the email addresses or an order of email addresses within the step-by-step sequence of email addresses being automatically-generated,” as recited in amended independent claim 32. Rather, a user of *Project 2000* is required to manually “fill in the names of the recipients” and manually “modify the order in which the recipients will receive” the email. *Project 2000*, pg 509. More specifically, in *Project 2000*, neither the names of the recipients or the order in which the recipients receive the email is automatically generated. Instead, the names of the recipients and the order in which the recipients receive the email is determined and manually entered by the user.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that, for at least the reason above, the rejection of claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn. Additionally, the Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 33-38 be withdrawn for at least the reason that they depend from claim 32. Moreover, new dependent claim 42 is patentable for at least the reason that it depends from claim 32.

Conclusion

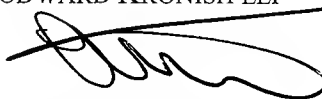
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. The Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. The Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that further personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. Prompt and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

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